

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the above-referenced application.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for parallel operation of a plurality of microreactors comprising:

(a) a chamber equipped with at least one element that supports or secures a microreactor tray inside the chamber, wherein the microreactor tray holds a plurality of microreactors;
~~and~~

(b) a supporting component that holds a signal transmission device, wherein the supporting component and microreactor tray are controllably movable with respect to one another;

a plurality of support structures that contain or support an actuating device, wherein the support structures are movable with respect to the microreactor tray and wherein movement of the supporting component brings the supporting component into contact with a support structure, thereby moving the support structure so as to allow the supporting component to position a sensing device held by the supporting component into operably close proximity to microreactors mounted in or on a microreactor tray installed in the chamber; and
at least one spring that extends from the support structure to a wall of the chamber, and wherein movement of the support structure resulting from contact with the supporting component compresses the at least one spring.

2-12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [[12]] 1, wherein termination of contact between the support structure and the supporting component releases compression of the at least one spring, thereby resulting in movement of the supporting structure to its previous position.

14-117. (Cancelled).